

Send us your input

Update to the Commission's advice on the fourth emissions budget (2036-2040)

About this document

The Climate Change Commission is engaging publicly over the coming months to inform our work updating our 2024 advice on emissions budgets.

The first step is inviting written input into how we update our analysis on what the fourth emissions budget should be.

We want to hear from you. From 9 June to 19 July you will be able to share your evidence and insights with us through written feedback.

Wherever possible, we ask that you send us your responses by uploading them to our online platform, <https://haveyoursay.climatecommission.govt.nz>. We do this so we can collect a record of your contact details and your consent, and to provide you with important privacy information.

If you are unable to do this and would prefer to send your input to us by email or post, please:

- *See our website for the full background information on this process*
- *Provide your input by completing the table below*
- *Read and complete the separate contact and consent form*
- *Send us a copy of **this file** with your input and your **contact and consent form** to haveyoursay@climatecommission.govt.nz*

If you have any questions about providing input, please contact us at haveyoursay@climatecommission.govt.nz.

Your input

Area	Description	Question(s)
<p>Our proposed approach</p>	<p>As this is an update to existing advice, we are focusing on how changes to the Climate Change Response Act affect our previous analysis rather than undertaking a fresh analysis. However, we will consider any relevant important changes since we gave our advice in December 2024.</p> <p>We intend to approach this in two parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updating our existing analysis based on significant changes and methodological changes in the Greenhouse Gas Inventory that have occurred since December 2024, to assess whether our previously recommended emissions budget levels still reflect what is feasible. 2. Assessing whether our updated assessment of what is feasible is consistent with the ambition level set by the 2050 target, with a particular focus on the recent change to the biogenic methane component of the target. <p>We will not be revisiting other aspects of our advice, including rules for measuring progress towards emissions budgets and the 2050 target and limits to offshore mitigation.</p> <p>Much of our approach is determined by the constraints of the Climate Change Response Act and timeframes but we are keen to understand people’s perspectives on how we approach our task.</p>	<p>Do you agree with our proposed approach? (Y/N)</p> <p>Do you have any feedback on our proposed approach?</p>
<p>Your input:</p>		
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Area	Description	Question(s)
Biogenic methane	<p>When the Commission presented its fourth emissions budget advice the 2050 target was a 24–47% reduction in methane relative to 2017 levels. Our advice was that a 38% reduction of biogenic methane by 2050 was technically and economically achievable based on available evidence.</p> <p>The revised 2050 biogenic methane target now requires a smaller reduction in emissions of 14–24% below 2017 levels. This change may limit how much we can expect biogenic methane emissions to reduce over the emissions budget periods.</p> <p>The responses we receive to this question will be used to inform the decision on what level of biogenic methane reduction in the fourth emissions budget period (2036-2040) appropriately reflects the 2050 target, for the purposes of our modelling.</p>	<p>Where within the target range for biogenic methane should the fourth emissions budget aim to put the country on track for in 2050: [Please indicate one]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towards the bottom end of the range (around 14% reduction in biogenic methane) • In the middle of the range (around 19% reduction in biogenic methane) • Towards the top end of the range (around 24% reduction in biogenic methane) • Above the range if that remains feasible. <p>Please provide an explanation for your position.</p>
Your input:		

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Food production impacts	<p>The Climate Change Response Act has been amended to include a new matter which the Commission must consider when providing advice on emissions budgets: the implications or potential implications for domestic food production.</p> <p>The Commission intends to make use of the New Zealand Forestry and Agricultural Regional Model for this update to gain a more detailed understanding of feasible emission reductions and the impacts of those reductions on different types of farms and regions. We are interested in feedback on what else should be considered.</p> <p>The responses we receive to this question will inform the analysis the Commission will do on the impacts of the recommended emissions budget.</p>	What implications and evidence regarding domestic food production should the Commission consider in its advice?
Your input:		
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Area	Description	Question(s)
Modelling assumptions	<p>When we undertake analysis on emissions budgets, we use detailed sector level assumptions to create a bottom-up view of the level of emissions reductions which are feasible across the economy.</p> <p>As this advice is an update, we will be starting from the modelling used in our previous advice and updating it as required. This will include reflecting updates to the Greenhouse Gas Inventory and latest government emissions projections.</p> <p>Assumptions which affect biogenic methane emissions may also need to be adjusted to reflect the target change. When we released our original advice on the level of the fourth emissions budget we published an assumptions log, which set out the detailed assumptions used. This can be downloaded here: EB4 assumptions log [XLSX, 378 KB] https://www.climatecommission.govt.nz/assets/Advice-to-govt-docs/Target-and-budgets-final-reports/ENZ-assumptions-log_23_8_2024.xlsx</p> <p>The responses we receive to these questions will inform what assumptions from our original fourth emissions budget advice we may need to change in updating our modelling and how.</p>	<p>Is there particular evidence you think we should consider on how the specific assumptions used in the modelling for the original advice on the level of the fourth emissions budget have changed since 2024?</p> <p>Is there particular evidence you think we should consider on the feasible reductions for biogenic methane and how the drivers of this have changed since 2024?</p>
Your input:		
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Area	Description	Question(s)
Notable changes	<p>In this updated advice we will consider if there have been any notable changes which should be factored into our recommendations on setting the level of the fourth emissions budget and revising earlier emissions budgets.</p> <p>In the original advice we found that higher rates of forests planted over the previous four years than was expected when the first three emissions budgets were set, was a significant change that warranted changing emissions budgets.</p> <p>The responses we receive to this question will inform our assessment of if we need to account for any major changes that we did not account for in the original advice.</p>	<p>Are there any notable changes since December 2024 which are likely to materially or permanently affect the level of emissions reductions which are appropriate?</p>
Your input:		
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Area	Question	Your response
Future engagement	Are you interested in engaging with the Commission directly on this project? (Y/N)	
	What are you interested in engaging with us about? [Please indicate one of the below or specify something else] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biogenic methane • Food production • Significant change • Impact of changes to the Greenhouse Gas Inventory on emissions budgets • Specific assumptions used in modelling 	
	Please provide a contact email and we will be in touch to arrange a meeting.	